

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-07 SS-20 SP-03 SAJ-01

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 674

INFO USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJ: SALES PROMOTION FOR STUDY AND CRITICISM

REF: HONG KONG 5011; HONG KONG 4976

1. THE SHANGHAI JOURNAL STUDY AND CRITICISM, NEWLY PUT ON SALE OUTSIDE THE PRC, IS NOT JUST AVAILABLE HERE BUT IS BEING PROMOTED THROUGH ADVERTISING. ADS HAVE BEEN CARRIED IN THE LOCAL COMMUNIST PRESS AND, INTERESTINGLY, IN TWO TAIWAN-ORIENTED NEWSPAPERS, SING TAO JIH PAO AND WAH KIU YAT PO. THE WEEKLY ENGLISH EDITION OF THE COMMUNIST TA KUNG PAO REPORTS THE JOURNAL'S APPEARANCE HERE AS A NEW ITEM IN ITS MAY 9 ISSUE.

2. THE COMMUNIST NEW EVENING NEWS MAY 6 CARRIED A WITTY COMMENTARY THUMBING ITS NOSE AT CHINA WATCHERS WHO HAVE MADE A FUSS OVER THE JOURNAL, AND POKING PARTICULAR FUN AT THOSE WHO READ MUCH INTO THE CHANGING CALLIGRAPHY ON THE COVER (WHICH CHANGES FOR THE THIRD TIME WITH THE CURRENT, APRIL ISSUE), AND AT THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN SELLING XEROXED COPIES. THERE IS SUBSTANCE BEHIND THE RIDICULE, HOWEVER, AND THE ARTICLE DRIVES HOME THE POINT THAT FAR FROM BEING BANNED OR CONTROLLED THE JOURNAL "IS BEING EXTENDED TO HONG KONG, MACAU AND ABROAD." THE MESSAGE THUS CONVEYED IS THAT THOSE BEHIND THE JOURNAL ARE NOT AD-

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VENTURERS SKATING ON THIN ICE, BUT THE CREATORS OF A

"THEORETICAL JOURNAL" WHICH IS "RICH IN CONTENT" AND "A FRESH

FLOWER BLOOMING IN SHANGHAI." THE ARTICLE'S AUTHOR, PRESUMABLY
EDITOR LO FU, SAYS THE JOURNAL'S ARRIVAL IS CAUSE FOR "REJOICING."
CROSS

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